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## NOTES

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An expedition from the Department of Medical Zoology of the School of Hygiene and Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, during the past summer carried on investigations in Porto Rico on hookworm disease. The expenses of the work were paid by the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. Those who took part in the researches were Dr. Florence K. Bayne, Mr. N. R. Stoll, Mr. D. L. Augustine and Dr. W. W. Cort of Johns Hopkins University, Dr. W. A. Riley of the University of Minnesota and Drs. G. C. Payne and R. B. Hill of the International Health Board. The headquarters of the expedition were in Utuado, where a small hospital was furnished by the Department of Health of Porto Rico for living quarters and laboratory. Two kinds of work were undertaken, viz., field studies on the etiology of hookworm disease and laboratory studies on the development and activities of hookworm larvae.

The field investigations consisted of epidemiologic studies of four areas, by the methods used the previous summer in Trinidad. It was found, as reported by earlier workers, that the degree of infestation with hookworm was much greater in the mountains of Porto Rico than on the coastal plains and that the conditions on the coffee estates were particularly favorable to the spread of hookworm disease. As in Trinidad the intense areas of soil contamination which develop near the houses of the people where the soil is constantly polluted, proved to be important centers of human infestation.

The laboratory researches confirmed the results of the Trinidad Expedition, by showing that under the conditions in Porto Rico, the infective hookworm larvae died out rapidly from the soil, and did not migrate actively far from the place of development. The washing of the hillsides by heavy rains, however, may distribute them over considerable areas. The mixture of feces with sandy soil or humus proved a very favorable medium but development was inhibited in clay soils. All the various phases of the investigation brought out the difficulty which hookworm disease has in spreading from host to host except under gross conditions of soil pollution and in a favorable environment. The results of the summer's work will be published in a series of articles in the American Journal of Hygiene.

France is preparing to celebrate in appropriate fashion the approaching centenary of the birth of Pasteur. The celebration will be centered around the University at Strasbourg where Pasteur made his first discoveries. A monument in his honor is to be erected at the University as a result of an international subscription. Furthermore, a Scientific and Industrial Exposition of Hygiene is planned to demonstrate the revolution which his discoveries have brought about in the fields of medicine, hygiene, industry, and agriculture. There is also announced a series of congresses on tuberculosis, cancer, syphilis, etc. These will be held during the period of the Exposition, which is to cover June to October, 1923.